

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

CLVT 163

MAGI # 05016 356 35

CT-163

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

B. D. Bond Farm (Oak Hill)

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Route 4 (Now Saint Leonard Road, Maryland Route 765)

CITY, TOWN

St. Leonard

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Calvert

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT

☒ BUILDING(S)

☐ STRUCTURE

☐ SITE

☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC

☒ PRIVATE

☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS

☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED

☐ UNOCCUPIED

☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED

☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED

☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☒ AGRICULTURE

☐ COMMERCIAL

☐ EDUCATIONAL

☐ ENTERTAINMENT

☐ GOVERNMENT

☐ INDUSTRIAL

☐ MILITARY

☐ MUSEUM

☐ PARK

☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE

☐ RELIGIOUS

☐ SCIENTIFIC

☐ TRANSPORTATION

☐ OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mrs. Cassie Duke

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

Prince Frederick

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Liber #: AAH 31/577

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

| CONDITION | | CHECK ONE | CHECK ONE |
|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT | <input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED | <input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GOOD | <input type="checkbox"/> RUINS | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED | <input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR | <input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED | | |

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

According to an interview with Mrs. Cassie Bond Duke, (March 2, 1977) the following information was gained. Mrs. Duke is eighty-seven years old; she remembers her father building this house when she was about five years old. It was built to replace a house which burned that year. She says that the old house was the "spittin' image" of the one at Delhi Plantation (CLVT-38), which was owned at that time by her father's relatives.

Mrs. Duke's father was named Benson Basil Duke Bond, and he was a member of the family which owned "Bond Castle." That building stood on an adjoining property, and Miss Cassie remembers playing in it as a child.

According to his daughter, Mr. Bond's house caught fire on election day in 1895. There were many people traveling on the public road in front of the house on their way to vote. With their help, much of the furniture was removed from the house and placed in the carriage house at the foot of the hill. The building was a loss, however, and he began immediately to build a new home on the same site, a modern one with a new plan. It took about six months, and in the meantime, the family stayed in a one room up/one down log house which used to stand down the road a short distance in St. Leonards. Although he had help and hired carpenters, Miss Cassie remembers that her father did much of the work including dressing the sills with an adze.

The house is a two-story wooden frame-and-clapboard structure that is laid out in a T-plan. Thus, the gable end roof has three gables. A large kitchen with a bedroom above occupies the south wing (stem) and a hall, parlors, and more bedrooms occupy the north wing (cross). The two sections are joined by the hall which runs east to west and which has a door at each end. Perched high upon its hilltop site such a plan invites cooling breezes in the summer. The hall also contains a hung stairs with a thin bannister and scrolled step-ends.

The west facade is perceived to be the front of the house, and it faces the public road. This facade is marked by a stoop over the entrance which is supported by turned columns decorated with scrollwork. The door has a transom and sidelights. This small porch is partially enclosed because of the south wall of the projecting north wing. The west end of that wing is part of this main facade, and it contains a round arch window in the gable. All of the windows on this side of the building are 2/2 except for one on the first level of the south wing. This is a large 6/6 window and serves as the kitchen.

Whether or not this oddity bears any relationship to the previous house is uncertain. There is a full basement underneath the north section of the house. It has been altered to accommodate modern equipment, but it may be a survivor of the first building on the site. Mrs. Duke says that the family sometimes referred to this home as "Oak Hill" because of two large oak trees which stood near the house.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

| PERIOD | | AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING | <input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499 | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION | <input type="checkbox"/> LAW | <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599 | <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS | <input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE | <input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699 | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY | <input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799 | <input type="checkbox"/> ART | <input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC | <input type="checkbox"/> THEATER | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE | <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1900- | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY | <input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) | |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION | | | |

SPECIFIC DATES

1895

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This is an 1890's building which was built to replace a much older house that was destroyed by fire. Although by no means lavish, the tallness of the structure and decorative items such as gingerbread porch supports create an impression of elegance.

The tobacco barn on the same property pre-dates the house by at least thirty years and is one of the few structures in the county which is known to have been used for flue-curing.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Wayne L. Nield II

Winter 76-77

ORGANIZATION

Historic Sites Survey

TELEPHONE

STREET & NUMBER

c/o Planning Office

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Prince Frederick, MD 20678

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

The plan consists of a tri-partite barn with a central passage. The building is vented by four doors, one of which is located in the middle of each side. These doors have been removed on the west, south, and east sides where sheds make them unnecessary. Pivots remain for the hinges, however, and suggest 8' doors 41" in width. Doors have been observed in similar barns whose length equals the distance between the sills and plates. These barns, however, had distances of only 12' and 14'. Such doors are as important for ventilation as access a fact suggested not only by their height but the continuous sills which block the passage of vehicles.

The sheds measure 12' on the east and west ends and 14' on the south side. The sheds appear to differ in materials from the main block and from each other, although this fact in itself does not include the possibility of one or more sheds being part of the original plan. The fact that the barn was full of tobacco at the time of examination made the gathering of further evidence on this point impossible. At least one of the sheds may have been built to accommodate a prize. The south shed houses an unusual vertical press which is made of hewn wood. Like the other additions, this shed has no sills and is supported by tree-posts fastened into hewn plates via mortise-and-tenon with trunnels. Rough logs in some instances serve as rafters, and it was observed on the east end that these are notched and nailed to the plate of the main block.

Inspite of these sheds, much of the original siding remains on the walls of the main block. Thus, they are nicely preserved. The siding consists of random width, vertical siding which measured up to 17" wide and 1" thick.

That the siding was retained eventhough sheds shut out the elements may be because of a wish to gain added control over damaging winter winds, but it may also bear a relation to the existence of a curring apparatus which is located in the main block. During the Late Nineteenth Century, "fire curring" was advocated by some, and this process actually required an air tight barn. Some information concerning this mode of curring is provided by an essay printed in the Report of the Commissioner of Agriculture for the Year 1867. Entitled "Culture and Management of Tobacco," the essay was authored by Walter W. W. Bowie of Prince Georges County, Maryland. In it, he points out that a good tobacco house should have many doors and windows for venilation which can affect both composition and color of the tobacco and then says,

"But a better plan for such as can afford it, and all can who grow large crops, is to have the house perfectly tight when the doors are closed, and to hang the tobacco plants rather further apart, and cure it with Messrs. Bibb & Company's patent tobacco "firing and curing apparatus. This apparatus is not costly, and will pay for itself by the increased value of ten hogsheads, or, in some cases, five hogsheads. Ripe tobacco cured by it is admitted to be worth in the market twice as much as if air-cured. It is highly recommended by all who have used it. It saves the expense of large barns by effectually curing the tobacco in a few days, when it can be taken down and removed to convenient sheds or pushed to the outer sides of the house, and stowed as close as possible without danger, for it is thoroughly dried tobacco can be brought into the proper state for shipping and preparing for market at any time, by means of the warm vapor it produces when arranged for the purpose. Any person of ordinary intelligence can manage it. So safe is it from danger of fire that many careful planters use it without fear in houses surrounded by wheat and haystacks."

The "curring apparatus" in this barn is, in fact, a Bibb. The identification plate above the fire-door reads:

"Patened June 25, 1861
Bibb and Company
Baltimore, Maryland."

It is made of cast iron and is a half-cylinder measuring 33" in width, 60" in length, and " in height. It is bolted together in three sections. A fire-door vents the front end of the tank, and 7" diameter pipes vent both sides and the opposite end.

Walter W. W. Bowie's article points out that this type of curring requires that the tobacco house be perfectly tight. This fact may help to explain why the thick and closely placed siding still remains on those walls protected by shed additions. It may explain as well why the doors appear to have been reduced in size.

If these conclusions are accurate then a further conclusion may be drawn concerning the significance of this structure. In addition to being an example of important construction techniques and a visual document of a process integral to the development of tidewater culture this particular barn appears to be a document of a phase of that particular process in which technological advancement was being sought.

In an interview with Mrs. Cassie Bond Duke, she confirmed that this barn was already standing in 1895 when the main house was built to replace an older home that was destroyed by fire. Mrs. Duke was born on this property in 1890, and she remembers the curring apparatus as always being in this barn; although she never recalls it having been used.

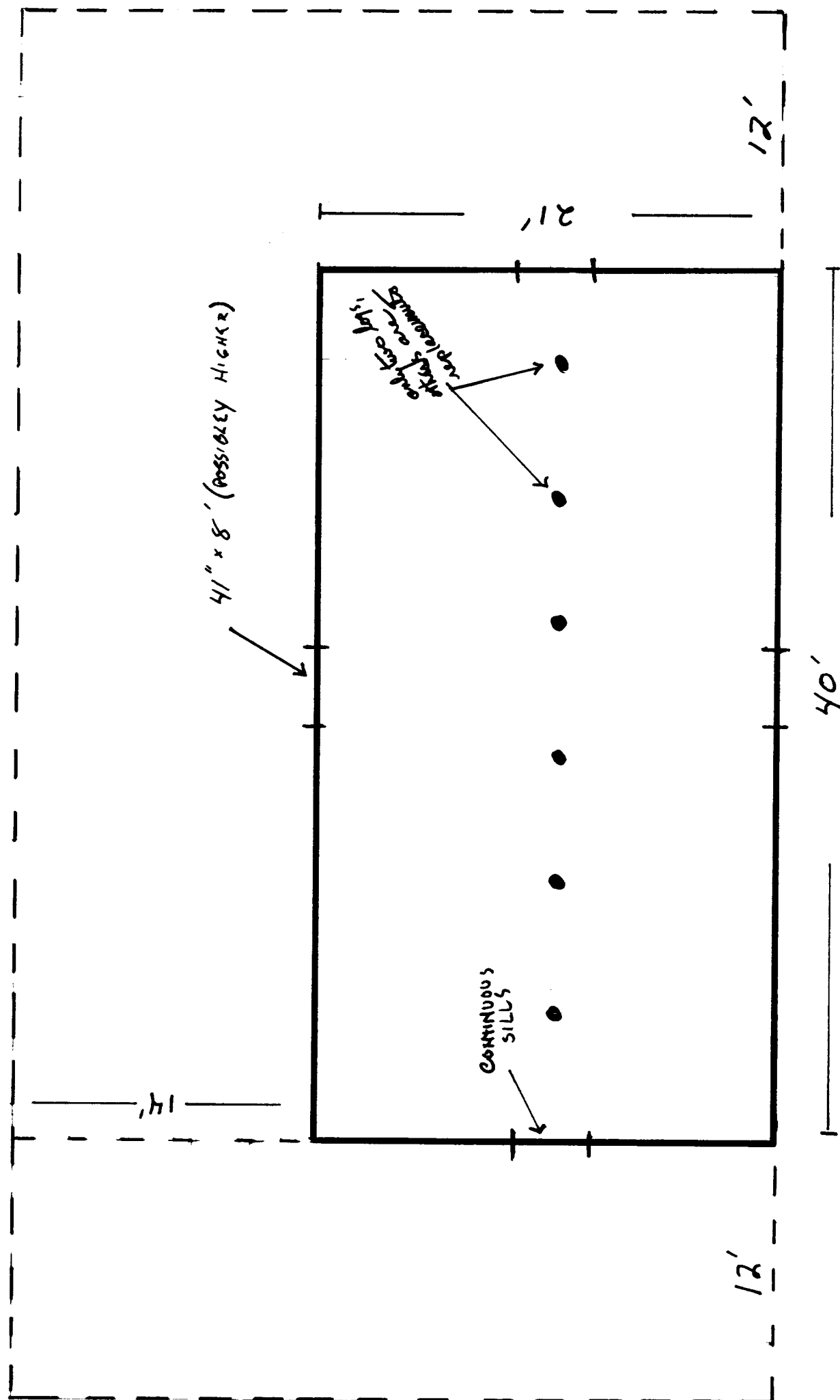
Barn: The structure is located approximately 100 yards east of the house being directly behind it.

This tobacco house possesses several architecturally significant features which have been noted in other structures of the same use. Among these are its ten-room plan, hewn post-and-beam frame, open faced dovetail joints, forged loop-end strap hinges, and a prize shed which contains a vertical press made of hewn lumber.

Being of ten rooms, the main block of the building measures 40' in length and a somewhat unusual 21' in width. There are four, full $3\frac{1}{2}'$ tiers resulting in a distance of $16\frac{1}{2}'$ between the bottom of the sills and the flat false plates. An additional $1' - 1\frac{1}{2}'$ is gained by the fact that the sills rest on fieldstone piers.

The frame is post-and-beam with a mixture of hewn and pit-sawn members. The sills are hewn, measure 1' x 8" in thickness and like the plates are continuous. The angle-braces are placed against the uprights at 45° angles and are fastened to them, and the sills, via open faced dovetail joints and fixed with a trunnel and three cut nails per joint.

CT-163



CHESAPEAKE

20676

GOVERNORS RUN

509

KENWOOD BEACH

WALNUT RD

PORLAN CT

WESTERN

BALSAM

WESTERN SHORE ESTATES

SAINT LEONARD

CT-163

ADC of Alexandria, Inc. 1992

St Leonard

CALVERT BEACH ESTATES

765

2 4

SOLOMONS ISLAND ROAD SOUTH LEONARD CR

2-21200

CALVERT BEACH PARK BEACH

Kings

BRANDYME

ST

ELLIS ST

DECATUR ST

ST

GARRISON

HARVARD

ST

Branch

ROAD Creek

APPLE CT

ROGWOOD TR

FOREST TR

WOOD LAWN

BALSAM ST

HARBOR

PLATEAU

MAGNOLIA

HILLSIDE RD

CALVERT AVE

BROADVIEW AVE

HIGHLAND DR

CALVERT BEACH

FLAG HARBOR

Flag Harbor Corp Club

CALVERT BEACH RUN

ELM

WALNUT RD

LONG BEACH

Joins Map 16

MD GRID 950,000 FT

76°27'30"

CT-163

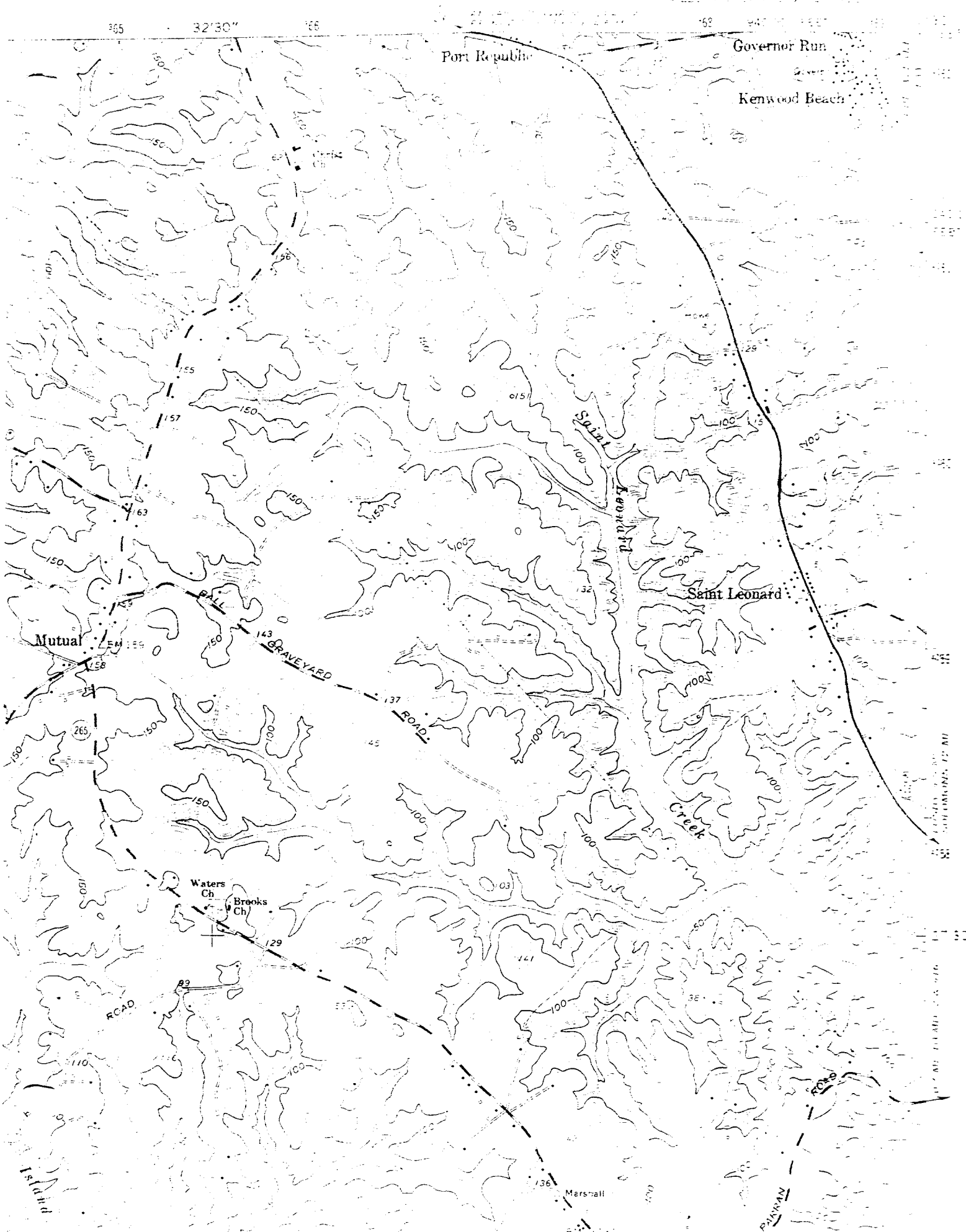
BROOKES ISLAND QUADRANGLE

MARSHALL ISLANDS

1:50,000 SCALE

1:50,000 SCALE

165 32°30' 166 167 168 169 170 171 172





CLVT-163

Wayne L. Nield, II

Survey

Maryland 20615

586-2050

B. D. Bond House and Barn



Wayne L. Nield, II
Historic Sites Survey
Edenies Island, Maryland 20618

CLVT-163

B.D. Bord House and Barn



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Wayne L. Nield, II
Historic Sites Survey
Broomes Island, Maryland 20615
580-2020

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B.D. Bond House and Barn



CLVT-163

T.B.D. Bond House
and
Barn